

# SCHOOL BUDGET HITS NEW HIGH

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# Rabid Dog Victims Found in East

## '55-'56 Estimate Up by One-Third

Keeping pace with the expected one-third jump in school attendance during the coming year, both operating and building budgets for the Torrance Unified School District increased by about the same amount, according to the budget presented Tuesday night to the School Board.

The operating budget increased from \$3,379,833 for the 1954-55 school year to a proposed \$4,978,895 for the 1955-56 school year. For the same period, the building budget increased from \$3,870,959 to \$5,584,626.

Attendance in schools will increase from 11,920 pupils during the last year to an estimated 15,900 during the present school year.

Aug. 2 Hearing Set  
Public hearings on the budget will be held at the School Board meeting on Aug. 2.

The figures reflect an increase of \$200,000 in the operating budget due to receipt of federal funds earlier than expected, while a \$300,000 decrease in the building budget was caused by receipt of equipment earlier than expected, school officials reported.

Reflected in the new budget is a \$155 per year salary increase for teachers for starting pay. Starting teachers under the new schedule will receive \$4050 per year, compared with \$3895 under the old plan.

Teachers Get Two-Thirds  
Under the budget, 67.22 per cent of the funds are allotted for teachers' salaries, while other

funds are distributed as follows:

Operation of plant, 11.91 per cent; instructional expenses, 7.24 per cent; administration, 3.47 per cent; transportation, 2.71 per cent; auxiliary services, 2.69 per cent; fixed charges, 2.54 per cent; and maintenance of plant, 2.22 per cent.

Estimated receipts are from state apportionments, which amount to \$1,685,957 for elementary students, \$245,520 for high school students, and \$547,850 for growth and other programs. Government building funds in the amount of \$96,750 are anticipated. District taxes are expected to bring in about \$1,636,810.

Totals Total  
Funds available for construction of new buildings and maintenance and additions to existing structures will total about \$5,073,200, according to the budget. Some \$3,600,000 in school bonds is expected to be sold during the year, and federal funds of \$106,000 are expected to add to the present \$1,878,299 in the county treasury.

Included in the 1955-56 budget for the first time are three new schools, scheduled to open in September—North High School and Steele and Newton Elementary Schools.



COME BACK, HOSE . . . Torrance got into the burrowing hose act Tuesday, as Mrs. Richard Oliver, of 1811 Middlebrook Rd., reported that her hose was disappearing into the ground in her back yard. Here, Mrs. Oliver, and a neighbor, Mrs. Donald Clark, tug on the hose, as neighborhood children try to see what is holding it. They finally managed to get it out by turning on the water and tugging hard. Five feet of the hose had slid through the earth.

## City Hires Auditor for Sales Tax

An audit of sales tax records of local firms—starting at the top of the scale—was authorized Tuesday evening with the employment of an auditor on a per diem basis to check accounts for the city.

No indication of where the first check might be made was given other than statements by members of the Council that the new auditor "should hit the bigger ones first."

Employed was Robert Wadell, who was retained on a daily basis of \$25 a day. He will probably be employed by the city about two days a week at present, City Manager George Stevens said.

His duties may be expanded next month when the new one-cent sales tax and one-cent use tax go into effect.

## L.A. Newspaper Cites Growth Of Local Area

Mayor Albert Isen's letter to the Los Angeles Times last Friday brought quick results—a five-inch story in the Tuesday home edition which cited the phenomenal growth of the city since 1950.

The mayor expressed his disappointment to the Southland's leading newspaper after it had omitted Torrance population figures as shown by the past two quarterly estimates of the County Regional Planning Commission. His displeasure at the seeming snub Torrance was receiving downtown was reported here Monday.

In the Tuesday story, the Los Angeles newspaper quoted Isen's claim that Torrance was the fastest growing city in Los Angeles County, but pointed out that Palos Verdes Estates might lay claim to that distinction—it has grown from a mere 1063 in 1950 to a present estimated population of 5915.

A check of the records shows that the mayor may still be on firm ground claiming to be the fastest growing city in Los Angeles County.

Since the 1950 census, Torrance has moved from 18th place in the county to 8th. Palos Verdes has moved up from 43rd place to 42nd.

## Special Census Late in October

Torrance's request for a special census to confirm the city's claim to nearly 65,000 population is sure to be granted in time to qualify Torrance for additional funds from State "in lieu" taxes next year, City Manager George Stevens reported to the Council Tuesday evening.

Reporting on his request to the Federal Census Bureau for a special one-census this year, the City Manager said that the Bureau of Commerce had estimated that it would cost the city about \$9580. Stevens said he estimated that the increased population would mean about \$100,000 to the city the first year "and more after that."

The Council authorized payment of \$3350 as a down payment for the census. Twelve official maps of the city will be sent to the census officials immediately, Stevens said.

## Councilmen Clash Over Tree Removal

An effort to make subdivisions pay for trees removed from parkways during construction of home tracts in Torrance, will be made in the future as the result of a split decision before the City Council Tuesday.

Brought up by Councilman Victor E. Benstead, Jr., who wanted to know on what authority Kauffman builders had removed the Deodar trees along Torrance Blvd. west of Hawthorne, the Council voted 3-2 with Councilman Dralle and Schwab dissenting, to seek reimbursement to the city for the trees.

After a defense of the situation by Councilman Dralle, who said it was his understanding that the trees were in an area which would have development of Torrance Blvd. as it is laid out on city plans, Councilman Blount countered:

"Let's give three cheers for Councilman and go home." Councilmen indicated that in some instances, the city might be able to collect for damaged and destroyed trees if they were so situated that they could have been saved.

## CITY AUTHORIZES SUIT AGAINST WATER FIRM

Negotiations with James Montgomery, Southland water engineer and specialist on municipal water problems, with the view of getting appraisals on all of the Moneta Water Co. facilities was authorized by the City Council Tuesday on the recommendation of City Attorney James M. Hall.

Hall's recommendation followed adoption of two resolutions setting up condemnation proceedings for parts of the north Torrance water firm which served two home tracts. The action was the outgrowth of complaints by residents in the area that water service was inadequate under the Moneta system.

The City Attorney said the city could be chipping away at the water service for some time to come—and that the Council might be ahead to look at the whole system now.

City Manager George Stevens was authorized to discuss costs of the appraisal with Montgomery.



LET TAKE IT . . . Mrs. H. J. Osborne accepts check from Jaycee treasurer Keith Flischel after she won top prize at closing of Torrance Community Fair and Bodeo Sunday night. Although first award was \$1000 bond or Hawaii trip, she took \$750 check in lieu of bond, with plan of donating major portion to Lions Club charities. Husband H. J. Osborne surveys proceedings while standing.

## Mother, Child Objects Of Nationwide Search

A nationwide search for a Torrance mother and daughter, bitten by a vicious, rabid dog here Friday, ended successfully yesterday, as word was received that they had been contacted in Morgantown, W. Va.

Mrs. Mary Liberatore, 29, and her daughter, Caroline, 7, were bitten by a rabid dog at their home, 4180 W. Rendondo Beach Blvd., Friday, as the family was moving from the house.

The dog attacked the child, who suffered numerous bites on her hands and face. When the mother tried to pull the dog off her daughter, she received bites on her hands and arms. Moving men ran to their assistance and finally trapped the dog in a room of the house.

## New Bus Routes Scheduled for Dollar Days Sale

Arrangements have been made with the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines to charter a free bus for use of shoppers in the eastern part of the Torrance trading area during Dollar Days on July 28, 29, 30. It was announced yesterday.

Sponsored by the Downtown Retail Merchants' Assn., the rides will cover an area not now served by bus connections with Torrance during the three-day sales.

Buses will take two routes. The first will go from the bus depot to Carson St., east to Western Ave., south to 220th St., east to Meyer St., south to Ocean St., and east to Menden St. The trip back will follow the same route.

Buses will leave the depot at 8:45, 9:45, 10:45, 1:45, 2:45 and 3:45, arriving at 234th and Menden St. 15 minutes later. They will start the return trip at 9, 10, 11, 2, 3, and 4, arriving at Ocean and Meyer Sts. five minutes later, and at the depot 15 minutes after the hour.

The second route will follow Cabrillo north to Torrance Blvd., turning northeast east on 209th St., north on Normandie Ave., east on 208th St., and north on Budlong, to 204th St. It will leave the depot at 9:15, 10:15, 11:15, 2:15, 3:15, and 4:15, arriving at 204th and Budlong seven minutes later. It will depart from these streets at 9:25, 10:25, 11:25, 2:25, 3:25, and 4:25, getting to Torrance seven minutes later.

ance and finally trapped the dog in a room of the house.

Family Left  
Although advised to keep in contact with health officials, the Liberators left soon afterward for Utica, N. Y., where their husband and father, is being sent as an engineer.

A red, mixed cocker spaniel, the dog was taken to the South Bay Humane Society by Robert Coreo, who reported the dog was quite vicious. Investigation after the dog's death Sunday revealed that it was definitely rabid.

The Liberators had left for the East before the diagnosis was made however. When it was definitely established that the dog was rabid, Dr. Benjamin Kogan, local health officer, ordered an all-points bulletin to news services and law enforcement officers throughout the country to locate the family, reportedly traveling on Route 66.

No Trace Found  
Relatives and friends of the family gave as much aid as possible, but no trace was found of them until they arrived at the home of Liberatore's mother in Morgantown, W. Va. There, they presumably will receive the Pasteur shots.

"I'm certainly relieved that they were found," Dr. Kogan said. "They had a fairly good chance of contracting rabies if they did not receive treatments."

Death always follows, if a person gets rabies. The disease has a varying incubation period, usually showing up 10 days or more after the bite.

Woman Bitten  
Another woman, Mrs. M. W. Randall, of Hawthorne, was bitten by the same dog earlier and began receiving Pasteur treatments as soon as the diagnosis of rabies was made. She was bitten the same day near her home, 250 Menlo, Hawthorne.

Investigations to find other possible victims of the same dog followed, Dr. Kogan said. Several other dogs are now under observation. Four rabid dogs were found

in north Torrance in June but since that time, no others were found here. North Redondo has had several rabid dogs in recent weeks, however.

The City Council will vote next Tuesday on a proposed ordinance which would require immunization of all dogs in the city.

## Meeting Called On Ditch Repair

A meeting between city and county officials and residents along the Madison St. drainage ditch in south Torrance has been scheduled for tomorrow morning in an effort to arrive at a solution to the unsightly ditch problem in the area.

The meeting was arranged as a result of comments before the City Council this week brought up by representatives of the area residents.

City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop was criticized by E. F. Schoonover and E. J. Robinson speaking for the south Torrance residents, because he had not come up with a final plan for the ditch.

Bishop explained to the Council that the problem was one of finances, stating that to provide a covered drain would require a 60-inch pipe which would cost about \$30 a foot plus installation.

Storm water in the ditch comes clear from the crest of the Palos Verdes Hills, he explained.

The ditch has been a sore spot among residents in the area for several years. Erosion has taken some of the adjoining property while other property has been built up by action of the storm waters, Councilmen were told.

Tomorrow's meeting is being called to see if the responsibility for aligning the ditch can be determined.



BEAUTIES ON PARADE . . . Fourteen local beauties will be competing for the "Miss Torrance" title on July 29, when judging will be held. Tomorrow is the final day for entrants in the contest. Shown here are Yolanda Goldsmith, Jeannette Monroe, Darlene Forrer, Linda Sells, Jean Zilliox, June Dahlin, Tomi Duran, Julie Hadd, Jeannie Gray, Marjorie Osterloh, Georgia Sanford, Julie Carcerano, Thelma Smith, and Diane Trimble.

## County to Condemn Drain Site

A major step in the construction of the Arlington-Glenburn Ave. storm drain in north Torrance was taken by the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, when the board approved condemnation proceedings to acquire right of way for the project.

The action was taken on the recommendation of the County Flood Control District. Authorization of the condemnation action paves the way for final approval of the plans and for advertising for bids on the project. This drain will provide additional drainage for a large area of north Torrance.

To insure prompt action of the condemnation action, the Supervisors authorized deposit of \$1150 in court so an order of immediate possession can be obtained. This will permit contractors to move onto the job as soon as the successful bidder is selected.

The north Torrance project, part of the county storm drain program authorized three years ago in the multi-million dollar bond issue approved by voters. The local project, one of three, was designed by City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop in cooperation with County Flood Control

engineers. The county has allocated \$362,600 for the project. Main drainage lines will be on Arlington Ave. south from Redondo Beach Blvd. to the Dominguez Channel and north on Glenburn Ave. to the channel from approximately 175th St.

That part of the drain which will pass under 154th St. was completed last year when the State Division of Highways improved and widened that thoroughfare.

Supervisors ordered a priority on the project in an attempt to get final approval of the plans by August.